



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Tuesday, May 13, 2003

Contact: Holly Richardson (619) 595-4645  
Pager (619) 899-9564

## **GET "DOWN TO EARTH" WITH CTN** ***County Television Network Launches San Diego Gardening Show***

County Television Network (CTN) today announced the launch of a unique 30-minute gardening show, "Down to Earth," which will provide information to help residents produce the best home gardens for our local soil and climate.

"Hosted by award-winning horticulturist Tom Piergrossi, 'Down to Earth' is a HGTV-style show that helps San Diego's viewers learn how to garden in our County's various climate zones," said Michael Workman, director of the County Department of Media and Public Relations. "This new show also provides information on the services provided by the County departments of Agriculture, Weights & Measures, Farm & Home Advisor, and Environmental Health."

Piergrossi studied horticulture at the University of Arizona and has lived in San Diego County for more than 20 years. He's a board member of the San Diego Horticultural Society, and his work has appeared in *Sunset Magazine* and the *San Diego Union Tribune's* Home section.

"I'm very excited to be part of this new show because it allows me to bring my passion for gardening and landscape design to more people in San Diego County," said Piergrossi. "I'm able to share my knowledge and help improve our local environment by empowering viewers to try new plants and new techniques in their gardens."

Episodes of "Down to Earth" will air every night at 8 p.m. and will give viewers information on issues important to home gardeners such as creating privacy with plantings, staining concrete driveways, battling the most common rose pests and growing non-invasive ground covers. In addition, the topics discussed on "Down to Earth" are available on the CTN Web site at [www.ctn.org](http://www.ctn.org).

CTN is available on Time Warner 22, Cox 19 (North) & 24 (South), and Adelphia 66.

"Down to Earth" is sponsored by Project Clean Water, which is coordinating efforts to improve the quality of our water and our lives.

"Down to Earth" helps CTN meet the goals of the County's Strategic Initiatives in the areas of the environment, and safe and livable communities.

###